

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
PROPRIETOR.

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VOLUME XL.....NO. 22

AMUSEMENTS TO-NIGHT.

NEW YORK STADT THEATRE.
Society.—MEIN LEOPOLD, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.
No. 24 Broadway.—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M.

BOOTH'S THEATRE.
corner of Twenty-third street and Sixth avenue.—LITTLE EMILY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Mr. Howe.

HOOLEY'S OPERA HOUSE.
Brooklyn.—THE GEORGIA MISERABLE, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

THEATRE COMIQUE.
No. 314 Broadway.—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M.

BROOKLYN PARK THEATRE.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M.

ROMAN HIPPODROME.
Twenty-sixth street and Fourth avenue.—Afternoon and evening, at 2 and 5.

TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE.
No. 21 Bowery.—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M.

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE.
Twenty-eighth street and Broadway.—WOMEN OF THE WEST, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Mr. Lewis, Miss Davenport, Miss Jewett.

BRYANT'S OPERA HOUSE.
West Twenty-third street, near Sixth avenue.—NEGRO MISERABLE, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10 P. M. Dan Bryant.

PARK THEATRE.
Broadway, between Twenty-third and Twenty-second streets.—OPERA.—SOUTHERN FLEET DE MADAME ANGOT, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M.

GERMANIA THEATRE.
Fourteenth street.—DER VERSCHWENDER, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M. Miss Lina Mayr.

NIRLO'S THEATRE.
Broadway.—UNCLE TOM'S CABIN, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M.

TIVOLI THEATRE.
Eighth street.—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 11 P. M.

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS.
Broadway, corner of Twenty-sixth street.—NEGRO MISERABLE, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10 P. M.

ROBINSON HALL.
Sixteenth street.—REGINA DILL CARR, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M. Mr. MacFarlane.

GLOBE THEATRE.
Broadway.—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

LYCEUM THEATRE.
Fourteenth street and Sixth avenue.—TWILY AXE AND CROWN, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M. Mrs. Bonshy.

WALLACK'S THEATRE.
Broadway.—THE SNAK CHAUN, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M. Mr. Raymond.

BROOKLYN THEATRE.
Washington street.—THE GILDED AGE, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M. Mr. Raymond.

WOOD-MUSEUM.
Broadway, corner of Third street.—THE FLYING DUTCHMAN, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M. ON HAND, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M. Johnny Thompson.

METROPOLITAN THEATRE.
No. 55 Broadway.—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

WITH SUPPLEMENT.

NEW YORK, FRIDAY, JANUARY 22, 1875.

From our reports this morning the probabilities are that the weather to-day will be cloudy, with rain or snow, and clearing up later.

WALL STREET YESTERDAY.—The stock market was weak but unexcited. The transactions were small. Foreign exchange was steady. Gold strong at 112½ a 112½, and money on call abundant at 2½ a 3 per cent.

LOUISIANA.—The Louisiana conservatives are regretting their precipitate action in quitting the State House. They now propose, as a measure of compromise, a fair division of the offices between the two parties, retaining Kellogg as Governor and making Penn the Lieutenant Governor. This solution is perhaps the best that can be reached at present. It would enable the Legislature to proceed to business. Antoine, the republican Lieutenant Governor, objects to being sacrificed to the conservatives.

GREEN REBUTED.—Comptroller Green's latest exhibition of good manners was made at a meeting of the Dock Commissioners, and in presence of a large number of citizens. Because the gentlemen of the Commission did not choose to wait the good pleasure of his high mightiness the Comptroller, he characterized their proceedings as "indecent." The gentlemen of the commission naturally object to be addressed in the language of the fish market, and have called the Mayor's attention to the ill manners of the Comptroller by a unanimous resolution.

REPUBLICANISM.—Apparently a republican rancor considers plans for protecting the negro in the South; in reality it considers how it may carry the elections in the Southern States; and in these two points are all the policy of the dominant party—how to carry the elections; how to get the offices and distribute the plunder, and how to make the manoeuvres contrived for this end seem like movements taken to secure the rights of an oppressed people; this is the whole wisdom and gospel of republicanism—how to cheat, and how to make your cheating look like virtue.

NON-RESIDENTS OSTRACIZED.—The Board of Aldermen have passed a resolution forbidding non-residents to hold office in any branch of the city government. The edict, apart from its political side, is evidence that the Board of Aldermen are awake to the necessity of inducing people engaged in business in New York to look on the city as something more than a counting house, to be escaped from as soon as business is over. But the most effective way to do this is to promote some system of rapid transit by which persons of moderate means may be enabled to find homes in Westchester. In this way only can the evil be dealt with.

Is It Peace or War?

The Message of President Grant published in yesterday's HERALD, urging upon Congress special legislation in reference to the "importance of preparations for war, in the armament of our seacoast defences," is an event of unusual significance. It is a technical and brief Message, and on its face seems simply a suggestion to Congress of the necessity of the procurement of heavy cannon. The President properly says that in time of war such preparations cannot be made. Cannon cannot be purchased in open market nor manufactured at short notice; they must be the products of years of experienced labor. "Constant appeals for legislation," says the President, "for the armament of fortifications ought no longer to be disregarded, if Congress desires in peace to prepare the material without which future wars must evidently lead to disaster." This Message comes at the same time with official and semi-official rumors to the effect that we are now about to have a "vigorous policy" with Spain, that "American honor is to be vindicated," that the Virginian question is to be redressed and that the Republic is about to assert its place among the nations. In this respect, and at the present critical time in our political affairs, it is a document of the gravest importance.

Nothing is more proper than that the President should keep a vigilant eye upon the condition of our national armament and especially our forts and seacoast defences. But this is a duty that should be delicately performed. A communication to Congress, asking for guns of larger calibre, should be made by the head of a department to the proper committee in the House, and not by means of a formal message. When the executive head of a great government publishes to the world that the fortifications are practically worthless, and that a new armament is necessary, he means one of two things—either to invite an attack from some enemy or to inspire legislation of a menacing nature. A message of this kind, addressed by the German Emperor to his Parliament or by Marshal MacMahon to the Assembly at Versailles, would set Europe in a blaze. Taken in connection with the general drift of events for the last few months we cannot solve the President's meaning without arriving at conclusions that give us uneasiness and concern.

What is the situation at present? President Grant is in the sixth year of an administration that began by a violation of the traditions of the constitution in this respect—that the Presidency was to him a personal and not a representative power. The effect of this, at the time, apparently harmless innovation, has been to change the whole tone of our politics and our government. Since the war a military sentiment has controlled the republican party. The old fealty to ideas which animated men like Sumner and Chase and Greeley, and which made the party independent, aggressive and pure, has given way to an absolute submission to the will of a chief. The President commands the government and the party just as he commanded an army. There is no will but that of the silent, inscrutable master in the White House. Occasionally there has been a murmur, as in St. Domingo and more recently in Louisiana. For a moment we have expectations of a mutiny or division. One or two independent men venture to assert that they are the peers and not the slaves of the President. But discipline is resumed, the murmur dies away, acts of an extreme and unconstitutional nature are condoned or forgotten, and the party moves on and on, obeying the will of a chief as implicitly as that will was obeyed by the armies of the Potomac and the West.

If the head of this party were a self-denying, patriotic man, animated by the sentiments of Washington, or even of Jackson, with no ambition but the public welfare, no personal friends to support and no personal interests to advance, we might be content with this anomaly in government, feeling assured that in time it would right itself, and that the nation, after passing through its military fever, would drift back to a condition of pristine health and freedom. But President Grant is no such man. Obstinate, able, independent, self-willed, amenable to no influences except those which appeal to his pride and his vanity, believing that he is more necessary to the party than the party ever has been to him, and regarding the Presidency as a personal possession, flushed with power, he does not mean to resign the office to which he has been chosen until he has exhausted every means of retaining it. Upon this theory his policy is as clear as crystal. We can understand it. We can see that he has been from the beginning driving at one purpose, and in pursuance of that purpose nothing is more natural than that he should threaten war with Spain, and ask Congress to give him money so as to purchase guns of a larger calibre.

The uprising of the people in the last canvass against the idea of the third term destroyed every belief which the President had entertained as to the power of party discipline to retain him in the Presidency. But two chances remained—a rebellion in the South and a foreign war. Nothing has prevented the revival in the South of the rebellion but the admirable patience of the Southern people. Provoked as they have been almost beyond endurance—a high mettle, proud, irascible race—nothing was more probable than that they would have answered the usurpation of Kellogg and the conduct of Sheridan by insurrection. The South is in so volcanic a condition that the flame would have blazed all over the late Confederacy. Such an uprising would have given the President the opportunity he and his friends desired. It would have aroused the old war spirit; it would have sent him into the field at the head of an army, and the result of such a campaign would have been the certainty of a triumphant re-election as President.

But, as we have said, this failed through the patience and wisdom of the Southern people, and now what remains? A foreign war, and with no country but Spain. Our relations with England are amicable. Mexico has been generally certain enough for a war in the hands of an aggressive administration; but the rulers of that Republic have been singularly patient and docile in dealings with the United States. But with Spain we have an issue. There are burning questions between that country and our own. But these questions have been in existence for a hundred years; and we look back to the adminis-

tration of Jefferson, Adams, Jackson, Polk and Buchanan, and the Spanish question is constantly alive. This comes from the fact that this Continent, once practically a possession of Spain, has been for two centuries the scene of a struggle between the descendants of Pizarro and Raleigh. Step by step we have driven the Spaniard from the larger part of North America. Our civilization has exhausted the civilization of Mexico and California. Our policy has usurped the traditions of the Spaniard, supplanted his laws and destroyed his power. All that remains of Spain in the dominion that once obeyed the orders of the Viceroy of Madrid, and which is now a wealthy and powerful Empire, is the soft and musical names of villages, rivers and hills.

We have no question with Spain that time will not settle. If President Grant ever intended a vigorous policy with Spain he should have shown this in the recognition of Cuba, and not made the government an ally in the infamous system which devastates that island. Any question with Spain at this time is a pretext, and not a purpose. We are solving out the Spanish question by civilization. Cuba is ripening for annexation, just as California ripened. This year will fall in time. We do not need the sword to cut it down. An appeal to the sword would be a crime, and a crime perpetrated in the interest of the President's ambition. Nor should all independent men of either party ignore the gravity of the situation. They sneered at our prophecies of Caesarism, yet came to accept them when they could be no longer denied. Nothing is more the duty of independent men—democrats and republicans—than to deal with this war spirit that comes muttering to us from Washington as they would deal with a crime against the integrity of the Republic. Grant should be forced to resign, and the Presidency should be transferred to Mr. Wilson. Sharp, peremptory, decisive expressions of opinion by Congress in the beginning may save disasters in the end. Such action even now may compel Grant to surrender the office he uses to the injury of the country. But the war purpose exists, and the President should be taught that he cannot thus trifle with the interests of the country for his own personal ambition. The resignation of Grant means peace, and so long as he hesitates we are threatened with war.

Turkey and Montenegro.

Our London telegrams seem to contemplate the imminent possibility of war between two Powers so little matched in strength as the Turkish Empire and the small mountain state of Montenegro, and war not made by Turkey—who might be supposed always ready to put her foot upon the thorn that has troubled her—but war declared by the pigmy against her comparatively gigantic neighbor. Toward the end of the last year an "outrage" was committed in Albania, and within the Turkish jurisdiction, upon certain Montenegrins who had gone over the border on a commercial excursion, and some were killed. Reparation was demanded in the usual course and was supposed to have been made, for the Turkish authorities executed all the perpetrators of the outrage whom they could lay hands on, to the number of twenty, if we remember correctly. But this was not deemed satisfactory. At Constantinople, however, there was as much spirit as there was in the mountains, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs was neither submissive nor conciliatory. The case was not viewed by the whole Cabinet as he viewed it, however, and he went out of office, giving place to one who was relied upon particularly to smooth the case over. He apparently could not assume an attitude sufficiently abject, and war is declared or is imminent. Now the attitude thus assumed by Montenegro is not that of a little Power with twenty thousand fighting men confronting a Power which can overwhelm her in a twinkling, so far as relates to mere force, and it is of consequence, with regard to the peace of Europe, to know who stands behind these mountaineers. They are Slavs, and therein is perhaps the whole story. Russia has always supported them hitherto, and is evidently supporting them again, and she will either solicit them to be tranquil, as "the friend of Turkey," or she means with this little flame to light up a war in Europe. Which will it be?

THE DEFEAT OF SENATOR CHANDLER as a candidate for re-election to the Senate from Michigan will give a sense of relief, although nothing is known of his successor, whose name is quite new. A dying warrior solaces himself that he did not fall by an ignoble hand, but "Old Zach Chandler" has been defeated by a man of whom nobody ever heard before outside of his own State, and who can be neither praised nor depreciated until we learn more of him. If he does not make a better Senator than "Old Zach" he is a very small pattern indeed. Mr. Chandler has been conspicuous in the Senate as a howler among howling statesmen, outshining at times even the long-legged Logan; but this reputation is not enviable, and we hope that his unknown successor may, in the course of his six years' service, establish a character for moderation and sound judgment which will put him in contrast with the man whose seat he is to occupy.

THE BROOKLYN SCANDAL.—The cross-examination of the Mutual Friend still engages the attention of the public and Court, and the evidence is slowly accumulating before the jury.

THE CENTENNIAL.—Our friends in Philadelphia, in their practical, steady, sober way, are pushing along the work of the Centennial exhibition. A report has been submitted to the President by the Director announcing that twenty-four nations have already expressed a desire to take part in the exhibition. The building of the industrial palace is going on in Philadelphia with earnestness and skill. One of the first acts of the new Spanish King is the appointment of a nobleman to be chief of the Spanish Commission in place of Castelar, who had been nominated by Serrano, but who will have no place in the new government. Whatever criticism may have been made upon the inception of the Centennial certainly it is to be an international exhibition. Whatever objection cautious friends may have made to its assuming an international character that phase is passed beyond controversy. The honor of the country is largely involved in its success, and it would be well for the country—for the States especially—to take so active a part in the movement that it will become, in fact as in name, of a national character.

The Mysteries of the City Finances.

The evils of Comptroller Green's financial policy—if the reckless, witless, slipshod management of the past three years can be called a policy—are forcing themselves into greater prominence every day under Mayor Wickham's administration. The recent proceedings of the Board of Apportionment afford an illustration of the injustice to which the honest creditors of the city have been subjected through Mr. Green's obstructiveness and obstinacy. There was money in the treasury only awaiting a legal transfer to pay the poor scrub women their December wages and to meet the salaries of the clerks of the Courts. But Mr. Green regarded the settlement of these bills as a matter altogether too "insignificant" and "trifling" to require attention, and argued that in a city where so much money is paid out for salaries it can be of no consequence if a few employees remain unpaid. With the common sense and honesty of a business man the Mayor reminded the Comptroller that the clerks in the public offices and the women who do the cleaning are entitled to be paid as promptly by the city as they would be if employed in private offices and stores, and that it can be neither just nor logical to argue that two or three hundred persons who have honestly earned their salaries or wages may, without injustice, be left to suffer or starve because two or three thousand have been paid. Through the firmness of the Mayor the necessary transfer of unexpended balances was yesterday authorized in the case of the clerks of the courts, and the Comptroller was instructed to make the payments without any further delay.

The controversy over the question of transferring unexpended balances appears to throw some light upon Mr. Green's management. In his anxiety to prevent such transfers the Comptroller stated that they exist only on paper, and that there is no money in the treasury to meet them. This leads to the inquiries, what is done with the arrears of taxes and assessments of former years as they are collected; where does the money to meet the year's current expenditures come from when such expenditures exceed the amount of taxes collected, and how is it that no provision is made for a deficiency in taxation and no deficiency is ever reported at the time the estimates and appropriations are made, if any exists? The unpaid taxes on real and personal estate for the year 1874 are in the neighborhood of seven million dollars. Are there seven million dollars of the appropriations of last year still unexpended? If not, out of what funds has the excess of appropriations drawn from the treasury over and above the actual amount of taxes collected been paid? Has the Comptroller been using the money realized from the arrears of taxes and assessments of former years to pay the expenses of the current year? Does this explain his unwillingness to liquidate old debts, his anxiety to delay payment by factious defenses, taken through every stage of the law up to the last appeal? Is this the secret of his constant "bridging over" of assessment bonds as they fall due by the issue of new bonds to take their place under the authority of a law secured by his own lobby agents at Albany? Does he pursue this illegal and reckless course for the purpose of covering up and concealing the fact that a heavy deficit exists in the city treasury and in order to escape the necessity of increasing the debt or adding five or six millions to the year's taxation? It seems clear that the arrears of the taxes of 1872, or of any other year, when collected, should be devoted to the payment of the outstanding indebtedness of that year, and that any surplus remaining after those debts are paid should be reappropriated by the Board of Apportionment. It also seems clear that the arrears of assessments should be applied solely to the redemption of assessment bonds. If any different use is made of the money derived from such sources where is the law to authorize it? These matters should be scrutinized at once. It is a criminal neglect of duty to suffer the city finances to remain an hour in their present intricate, incomprehensible and suspicious condition. Dishonesty alone fears the light. We repeat what we have before said, that resolutions calling upon Mr. Green for information are idle. A full and searching scrutiny into every nook and corner of the Finance Department, made by competent persons, is demanded in the public interest and for the public safety. Now that Mayor Wickham has united with Commissioner Howe another gentleman of capacity and energy he should at once order such an investigation.

The Recent Wind and Weather on the Atlantic.

The wind and weather on the Atlantic during the last fortnight have been of the stormiest type, and have put the best navigation to the severest test. It is generally believed that the Atlantic storm season is at its worst during the equinoctial period, when the atmospheric equilibrium is most seriously disturbed, and that there should be an interregnum of comparative quiet in July and one in January. This year, however, seems to be exceptional, so far as the present month is concerned, and the ocean, lake, death, claims the sovereignty of all seasons.

The recently reported detentions of westward-bound steamers (though in part happily reduced by the arrivals of the last two days) show through what terrible battle these ships make their winter way to our shores. Some of them were over eighteen days out, and seem to have been baffled, not by a single storm, but by a succession of storms pressing upon each other's heels. These successive gales appear to have been connected with the high barometers, or polar air waves which have recently swept across the northern part of the United States and have been launched into the hot and humid regions of the Gulf Stream, off Newfoundland. One of the merchant ships arriving here on the 12th reported encountering the polar wave of the 8th, about forty miles southeast of Sandy Hook, where she was quickly shrouded in the freezing vapor drift, and the ice deposited over her deck was twenty feet high. This, however, could occur only near shore, but the same frozen meteor plunging into a warm water belt in mid-ocean must produce the most indescribable agitation of the elements. When it is remembered that one of these cold waves sometimes covers one-fourth of the area of this country we may get some faint idea of the extent of the disturb-

ance it creates on the liquid oceanic plain, where the winds have an unobstructed sweep over thousands of leagues.

The recent disastrous tempests seem to be thus traceable to the American weather changes of the last fortnight. The last great barometer fluctuation was followed by a storm centre which the weather reports recorded on the 15th inst. as then moving eastward over the Gulf of St. Lawrence. No doubt this particular storm made its power seriously felt along its track, which probably lay not far from the northern passage pursued by many of the steamships. It was followed by dangerous winds while yet visible off the Canadian shores, and when it reached the more humid air off Newfoundland, its violence was probably intensified. The weather reports very clearly show the seaman on the point of leaving port when these storms and storm breeders will be likely to burst upon the scene of his expected voyage, and the knowledge now accessible suffices to warn the calculating shipper not to expose his vessel in front of either the very high or the very low barometer. In fact, the lesson apparently deducible from the recent steamer detentions and ship disasters we have had to record is that the severest cyclones may be looked for as the sequel phenomena of the great winter areas of high barometer and excessive cold, or, in other words, the rising glass should be studied by the seaman as carefully as the falling glass.

Scriptures in Portico.

Within a few years what is known as Newspaper Row in Washington has become celebrated, not so much on account of the journalists who had offices on that famous locality as from those who pretended to, but had not, the congregation of many newspaper offices in a single block was a godsend to the lobby correspondent. It enabled him to be seen in the company of respectable journalists, and even to create the impression that he served respectable journals. The exigencies of the news market still further aided him, for news is like any other commodity, and must be bought from whoever has it to sell. The story of Newspaper Row has often been told—how from two or three letter writers for the New York press it grew into a great and commanding influence, with ramifications all over the country. The lobby correspondent was the natural offshoot of the genuine article, and he not only grew out of the activity of the news market, but formed a part of it and prospered with it, until to-day it is not easy either for Congress or the lobby to distinguish between the real and the spurious correspondent.

In that annual publication known as the "Congressional Directory" nearly three pages are devoted to the "Representatives of the Press." An examination of this list is a curious study. All the press associations are represented and all the leading newspapers in the country. Besides these there are probably a hundred journals on the list of which nobody ever heard. The correspondents of the latter class are generally harmless fellows, clerks in the departments, often, who seek to give themselves a little greater importance by getting the good-hearted Major Poore to put their names in the list. The *Tribune*, *Beacon*, the *Backwoods Statesman* and the *Ocean Wave* each has its correspondent. But it is not only the unknown journals that have correspondents without correspondence. Some of the most respectable newspapers in the country appear in the list with "representatives," who simply use the respectability of the journals as a cloak to their own schemes. We could point to three or four such in the leading cities, and what is more, everybody knows them and their business. Mr. Samuel Ward may be retained in a great lobby scheme like the Pacific Mail subsidy, as he so felicitously expressed it, simply because "the king's name is a tower of strength," but the lobby correspondent can show a bigger balance at his banker's, as has been most conclusively proved, than the king of the lobby. Mr. Ward can only talk to people who know the inspiration which moves his agile tongue, but the lobby correspondent is supposed to address an unsuspecting audience. It will thus be seen that Major Poore's list is a very useful list indeed to the active young gentlemen who are fondly believed to control the sentiment of the country.

And just here we wish to say to the readers of the HERALD that they need not send us any communications suggesting that hereafter the list of Washington correspondents be omitted from the "Congressional Directory." It is too late in the day for such a simple device. There are half a dozen people in Washington who have been correspondents of the HERALD for twenty years without having ever sent us a line of news or received a dollar of pay from us. If we repudiated them a hundred Congressmen who know better than we do whom we employ would laugh at us and believe in them all the same. Men like Mr. Irwin are always compelled to buy these, because the genuine article is not for sale. The lobby correspondent is a man of memories, and these are the foundations of his impostures. He is all things to all men. His actual connection with the *Podunk Press* and the *Okhotsk Transcript* enables him to enter the reporters' galleries and show himself in the ante-rooms of the House and Senate. The rest he manages for himself, and he soon makes it to be understood that he is all-powerful in the newspaper offices in New York and in the committee rooms on both sides of the Capitol. He generally owns a Senator or two and ever so many common Congressmen. He is a magnate in his way, who not only talks like a statesman, but lives like a gentleman. He has a house with terraced grounds, or the best apartments at the Arlington, Ebbitt or Willard's, and his wife's receptions are the wonder of the capital. Sam Ward's dinners are dull affairs in comparison. He keeps his carriage in Washington and his broker in New York, and yet he cannot write two consecutive lines of English and could not get them printed even if he could write them. But, thanks to the "Congressional Directory" and "Newspaper Row," he is able to work on from year to year and from Congress to Congress, apparently as much esteemed as if he was not an impostor, and to make more money than if he told the truth and accepted no bribes.

PACIFIC MAIL.—Irwin has at last spoken, and several gentlemen are in the same boat as Mr. Schumaker, who finds himself "in an embarrassing position." He exhibits quite a phenomenal defectiveness of memory in relation to monetary transactions. Like his companions in misfortune he scouts the idea that he used for his own benefit any of the three hundred thousand dollars which Irwin alleges he paid over to him. The moral of Pacific Mail is that bribe-taking is very dangerous to any man who hopes to preserve the appearance of honesty before the public.

Questions of Privilege.

We do not propose to enter into the controversy between the House of Representatives and the municipal authorities of Washington in reference to the arrest of Mr. Whitlaw Reid, editor of the New York Tribune, upon a warrant issued by a local Washington court charging him with the libel of Governor Shepherd. It is quite possible that the arrest of a witness in Washington under the control of the House, and to that extent covered by its protection, is an invasion of the privilege of a representative body. The matter, however, has been referred to a committee of able, experienced jurists, and they will give us the law on the subject.

But there is another point which concerns us as journalists. Mr. Reid has often said himself, in the columns of his newspaper, that he believes in frequent actions for libel. We share that belief. A journalist has no more right to assail the private character of a citizen than he has to put a knife into his side or to fire a pistol at him in the dark. When we hear all this cant and noise about the "invasion of the liberties of the press," "limitations of the rights of editors," and an attempt to enforce a "gag law" and an interference with a prerogative of republican institutions, we despise it. Law is the master of all men, journalists as well as the rest. If we libel a citizen we are perfectly willing to answer for it. If the press ever gains as much power in this country that it can assail private character, then, instead of being a safeguard of liberty, it will be the weapon of blackmailing and tyranny. For ourselves we wish no such immunity from the law. We are very sure that Mr. Reid will be only too glad to welcome the action brought against him by Governor Shepherd, and to prove, before a jury of his fellow countrymen, what he has said in the columns of his paper.

We are perfectly content with the freedom of the press as it exists in America. We do not believe in the license of the press. The law is good enough for us, and we are quite content to have it enforced. We have no doubt Mr. Reid shares the same opinion; and even if it should be discovered that there has been a breach of privilege in the manner of his arrest he will waive that protection and gladly accept the challenge of his antagonist to come into Court.

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

Colonel H. M. Black, United States Army, is at Jacksonville, Fla.

Sir John Swinburn, of England, has apartments at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

Admiral J. R. Tucker, of the Peruvian Navy, is residing at the New York Hotel.

General Eliza G. Marshall, United States Army, is quartered at the Sturtevant House.

Mr. Harvey G. Eastman, of Noughtkeepsie, is among the latest arrivals at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

Señor Don Luis Polo, of the Spanish Legation at Washington, is registered at the Westmoreland Hotel.

Here's a new view of the Christmas stocking—The boy says he "set it, but didn't catch anything."

Gallant man, Victor Emmanuel. He went from Rome to St. Remo to pay his respects to the Empress of Austria.

Inspector General Randolph B. Marcy, United States Army, arrived in this city yesterday, and is at the New York Hotel.

John Pittman, who has just died in London, was baptized in that city, as evidenced by the official record, September 11, 1772.

"I said happy New Year to the Judge," says a rufian in *Charivari*. "And did he give you nothing?" "Yes—five years."

Surgeon Major Grant, of the Ninety-seventh regiment, British Army, has taken up his residence at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

Senator John P. Jones and wife, who have been sojourning at the St. James Hotel for several days past, left this city yesterday for Washington.

Eugene Schuyler writes this year again the annual article on Russian literature for the *London Athenaeum*. It is of course very well done.

Right Honorable W. E. Foster, M.P., has consented to deliver a lecture on an early date in Bradford on his recent visit to the United States.

"Scot wha' hae wi' Wallace bled" is a true subject to new interpretations in view of the Pennsylvania Senatorial contest, especially the word "bled."

Paris wit says that since Sardon has dealt so unsuccessfully with "Hated" he should try "Vanity," as he would be more at home on the subject.

Nothing has helped Beecher so much in public opinion or pleaded so strongly his excuse as the publication of the portraits of "the Beecher group" in Court.

One of *Charivari's* funny men gave his mother "marrons glacés" for her New Year—"not that she was so fond of them, but because they were as gloriously indigestible."

The Countess de Paris was delivered of a son, in Paris, yesterday. The mother and infant are progressing favorably. This is the fourth child, and second son of the Count de Paris.

Only a military despot will be able to govern Spain, and it is a new illustration of the poverty of that wretched country that it does not possess so far as known, even a good despot.

Mr. Johanna Post, who has resided in Paris for many years, a highly educated member of the American colony, fell on New Year's night, owing to the slippery state of the street, and broke his arm.

The members of the Washington Club, in Paris, have resolved to entertain Colonel Hoffman, late Secretary of the American Legation in Paris, at a grand dinner, before his departure for his new post in London.

In Michigan the police have their hands on Albert Mollitor, who is alleged to be a son of King William of Wurtemberg, his mother having been an attendant on the Queen, and married to one Mollitor to cover the royal intimacy.

The clumsy style of dancing now in vogue in which people merely shuffle about the floor, pushing one foot after the other, seems to have come from Paris; for they have it there, and they call these ambitious young gentlemen "floor polishers."

The Pops has intimated, in an encyclical letter, that a jubilee will be celebrated in 1875. Such a solemnity this Holiness considers necessary in the present crisis of affairs, both as a means of procuring special grace for the faithful and Divine favor for the world at large.

The latest funny poet thus accounts for the joy of the man who was happy "on the lone sea shore":—

And why? In that vessel that left the bay
His mother-in-law has sailed,
To a tropic country far away,
Where tigers and snakes prevailed.

The Shah's visit to Europe has occasioned many alterations in the exterior appearance of the upper and middle classes in Persia. Shoes are worn, the baggy trousers are reduced, the chin is shaven—an innovation offensive to the orthodox Mohammedans—the cap is not so high and the whole dress is a mixture of Armenian and European fashions.